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## MESSAGE:

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION CONCERNING THE BELOW  
IDENTIFIED CASE

In re application of: Olaf MÜLLER

Confirmation No.: 9733

Application No.: 10/771,846

Group Art Unit: 3616

Filed: February 3, 2004

Examiner:

For: STEERING COLUMN AND ADJUSTMENT  
METHOD FOR A STEERING COLUMN

Attorney Docket No: 7100-X04-025CIP

1. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT;
2. FORM PTO/SB/08a; and
3. INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT.

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| <b>PATENT</b> | <b>Attorney Docket:</b> | 7100-X04-025CIP (NEW) |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                  |  |                 |      |
|------------------|--|-----------------|------|
| In re Appln. of: | Olaf MÜLLER  | Group Art Unit: | 3616 |
| Appln. No.:      | 10/771,846   | Examiner        |      |
| Filed:           | February 3, 2004   |                 |      |
| For:             | STEERING COLUMN AND<br>ADJUSTMENT METHOD<br>FOR A STEERING<br>COLUMN |                 |      |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The enclosed form PTO/SB/08a identifies all of the references cited during the prosecution of the parent application Serial No. 10/081,206, filed March 22, 2002 of which the present application is a Continuation-In-Part, and grandparent application Serial No. 10/031,080, filed May 10, 2002, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 10/018,206, filed March 22, 2002. These references are considered relevant because they were considered and are of record during the prosecution of the parent application. Since this is a Continuation-In-Part filed pursuant to 35 USC 120 and the benefit of Serial No. 10/018,206 is claimed, copies of the references made of record in the parent application are not attached (37 CFR 1.98(d)).

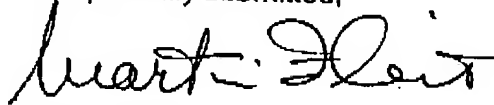
A copy of the European Search Report which is of record in the parent application is also enclosed herewith.

It is requested that these references be considered and made of record and that an initialled copy of the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A be returned to the undersigned.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

No fee is believed to be due with this submission. However, please charge any required fee (or credit any overpayments of fees) to the Deposit Account of the undersigned, Account No. 500601 (Docket no. 7100-X04-021CIP).

Respectfully submitted,



Martin Fleit, Reg. #16,900

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PTO/SB/08a (05-03)

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1

of 1

**Complete if Known**

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Application Number     |                       |
| Filing Date            | February 3, 2004      |
| First Named Inventor   | Olaf Muller           |
| Art Unit               |                       |
| Examiner Name          |                       |
| Attorney Docket Number | 7100-X04-025CIP (NEW) |

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                    |                       | US- 6,134,982   | 10-2000                        | Takabatake, Yoshikazu                              |   |
|                    |                       | US- 5,893,580   | 04-1999                        | Hoagland et al                                     |   |
|                    |                       | US- 5,769,454   | 06-1998                        | Duval et al  |   |
|                    |                       | US- 5,295,712   | 03-1994                        | Omura Hideo  |   |
|                    |                       | US- 4,941,679   | 07-1990                        | Baumann et al                                      |   |
|                    |                       | US- 4,886,295   | 12-1989                        | Browne, Alan L.                                    |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,170,874   | 01-2001                        | Fosse  |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,189,919   | 02-2001                        | Sinnhuber et al                                    |   |
|                    |                       | US- 4,968,058   | 11-1990                        | Jones  |   |
|                    |                       | US- 5,619,058   | 04-1997                        | Byon   |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,241,284   | 06-2001                        | De Verdier et al                                   |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,585,294   | 07-2003                        | Faulstich et al                                    |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,152,488   | 11-2000                        | Hedderly et al                                     |   |
|                    |                       | US- 5,295,712   | 03-1994                        | Omura  |   |
|                    |                       | US- 6,170,862   | 01-2001                        | Hoagland et al                                     |   |
|                    |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                    |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                    |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                    |                       | DE 198 29 237A1  | 01-07-1999                     | Volkswagen AG                                      |   |                |
|                    |                       | WO 98/22325 A1   | 05-28-1998                     | AB VOLVO   |   |                |
|                    |                       | WO 98/58831  | 12-30-998                      | AB VOLVO   |   |                |
|                    |                       | GB 1,362,899   | 08/1974                        | AB VOLVO   |   |                |

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER<br>IPC 7 B62D1/18 B62D1/19   |   | Internal Application No<br>PCT/DE 00/01889                           |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC  |   |  |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED<br>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>IPC 7 B62D  |   |  |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  |   |  |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)<br>EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ  |   |  |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT   |   |  |
| Category *   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No.  |
| X  | DE 198 29 237 A (VOLKSWAGENWERK AG)<br>7 January 1999 (1999-01-07)<br><br>column 7, line 21 -column 8, line 20;<br>claims 1-4,6-9; figure 1 | 1-5,7,<br>9-12,16,<br>18-20,<br>22-24                                |
| Y  |   | 6,8,13,<br>14,21,<br>25-27   |
| Y  | WO 98 22325 A (FOSSE TORE ;VOLVO AB (SE))<br>28 May 1998 (1998-05-28)<br><br>page 5, line 5 -page 11, line 13; figures                      | 6,8,13,<br>14,21,<br>25-27   |
| A  |   | 1,2,5,7,<br>9,16-18,<br>20,22  |
| -/-  |   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.   |   |  |
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| "Z" document member of the same patent family  |   |  |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search<br><br>2 November 2000   |   | Date of mailing of the international search report<br><br>08/11/2000 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA<br>European Patent Office, P.B. 5816 Patentlaan 2<br>NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk<br>Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.<br>Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016   |   | Authorized officer<br><br>Kulozik F                                  |

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/DE 00/01889

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No.                           |
|------------|---|---|
| Y          | WO 98 58831 A (ASPLUND NIKLAS ;FURTENBACH<br>LARS (SE); VOLVO AB (SE); ANDERSSON BJO)<br>30 December 1998 (1998-12-30)<br>page 8, line 34 -page 10, line 29<br>page 11, line 6 - line 34<br>claim 13<br>figures 1-4 | 8   |
| A          |   | 1,5,6,9,<br>13,14,<br>16-18,<br>20-22,<br>25,26 |

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internat'l Application No

PCT/DE 00/01889

| Patent document<br>cited in search report | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) | Publication<br>date |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| DE 19829237 A                             | 07-01-1999          | DE 19829238 A              | 07-01-1999          |
|   |                     | DE 19829239 A              | 07-01-1999          |
| WO 9822325 A                              | 28-05-1998          | SE 507771 C                | 13-07-1998          |
|   |                     | EP 0939719 A               | 08-09-1999          |
|   |                     | SE 9604257 A               | 22-05-1998          |
| WO 9858831 A                              | 30-12-1998          | SE 510856 C                | 28-06-1999          |
|   |                     | EP 0991558 A               | 12-04-2000          |
|   |                     | SE 9702376 A               | 24-12-1998          |



## INTERNATIONALER RECHERCHENBERICHT

Internal les Aktenzeichen

PCT/DE 00/01889

A. KLASIFIZIERUNG DES ANMELDUNGSGEGENSTANDES  
IPK 7 B62D1/18 B62D1/19

Nach der Internationalen Patentklassifikation (IPK) oder nach der nationalen Klassifikation und der IPK

## B. RECHERCHIERTE GEBIETE

Recherchierte Mindestprüfstoff (Klassifikationssystem und Klassifikationsymbole)  
IPK 7 B62D

Recherchierte aber nicht zum Mindestprüfstoff gehörende Veröffentlichungen, soweit diese unter die recherchierten Gebiete fallen

Während der internationalen Recherche konsultierte elektronische Datenbank (Name der Datenbank und evtl. verwendete Suchbegriffe)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. ALS WESENTLICH ANGESEHENE UNTERLAGEN

| Kategorie* | Bezeichnung der Veröffentlichung, soweit erforderlich unter Angabe der in Betracht kommenden Teile | Betr. Anspruch Nr.                      |
|------------|--|---|
| X          | DE 198 29 237 A (VOLKSWAGENWERK AG)<br>7. Januar 1999 (1999-01-07)                                 | 1-5, 7,<br>9-12, 16,<br>18-20,<br>22-24 |
| Y          | Spalte 7, Zeile 21 - Spalte 8, Zeile 20;<br>Ansprüche 1-4, 6-9; Abbildung 1                        | 6, 8, 13,<br>14, 21,<br>25-27           |
| Y          | WO 98 22325 A (FOSSE TORE ; VOLVO AB (SE))<br>28. Mai 1998 (1998-05-28)                            | 6, 8, 13,<br>14, 21,<br>25-27           |
| A          | Seite 5, Zeile 5 - Seite 11, Zeile 13;<br>Abbildungen  | 1, 2, 5, 7,<br>9, 16-18,<br>20, 22      |

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☒ Weitere Veröffentlichungen sind der Fortsetzung von Feld C zu entnehmen☒ Siehe Anhang Patentfamilie

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Datum des Abschlusses der internationalen Recherche

2. November 2000

Absenddatum des internationalen Recherchenberichts

08/11/2000

Name und Postanschrift der Internationalen Recherchenbehörde  
Europäisches Patentamt, P.B. 5818 Patentsaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Bevollmächtigter Beauftragter

Kulozik, E

## INTERNATIONALE RECHERCHENBERICHT

[illegible]

## INTERNATIONALER RECHERCHENBERICHT

Angaben zu Veröffentlichungen, die zur selben Patentfamilie gehören

Internat. s. Aktenzeichen

PCT/DE 00/01889

| Im Recherchenbericht<br>angeführtes Patentdokument | Datum der<br>Veröffentlichung | Mitglied(er) der<br>Patentfamilie | Datum der<br>Veröffentlichung |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| DE 19829237 A                                      | 07-01-1999                    | DE 19829238 A                     | 07-01-1999                    |
|  |                               | DE 19829239 A                     | 07-01-1999                    |
| WO 9822325 A                                       | 28-05-1998                    | SE 507771 C                       | 13-07-1998                    |
|  |                               | EP 0939719 A                      | 08-09-1999                    |
|  |                               | SE 9604257 A                      | 22-05-1998                    |
| WO 9858831 A                                       | 30-12-1998                    | SE 510856 C                       | 28-06-1999                    |
|  |                               | EP 0991558 A                      | 12-04-2000                    |
|  |                               | SE 9702376 A                      | 24-12-1998                    |